

# CHRONOLOGY OF INTERNATIONAL EVENTS AND DOCUMENTS

Supplement to

## THE WORLD TODAY

PERIODICAL ROOM  
GENERAL LIBRARY  
UNIV. OF MICH.

Published twice a month by the Royal Institute of International  
Affairs, Chatham House, St. James's Square, London, S.W.1

Annual subscription 12s. 6d. Per copy 6d.

Volume II. No. 8 (New Series)	April 8—21, 1946
CHRONOLOGICAL SUMMARY OF EVENTS	225
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES	243
THE SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING	244

ARGENTINA. *April 8.*—The final results of the Elections were announced. For the Presidency Col. Peron obtained 1,479,517 votes and 304 electors, and Dr. Tamborini 1,220,822 votes and 72 electors. In the Congress elections the results were: Senate, Perónistas, 26; undetermined, 4. Chamber, Perónistas, 109; Radicals, 44; Conservatives, 2; Anti-Personalists, 2. The Nationalists and Communists were at the bottom of the poll, and the Socialists did not win one seat in either House.

*April 10.*—The Government received from the U.N.R.R.A. representative, Mr. Sayre, a memorandum suggesting how Argentina could best contribute to solving the world food problem. It also stated that Europe would be on the brink of catastrophe unless help was sent at once.

*April 11.*—A Soviet trade mission arrived in Buenos Ayres.

*April 13.*—The Foreign Minister stated that after May 31 Argentina was placing 120,000 tons of wheat at U.N.R.R.A.'s. disposal.

*April 20.*—The first shipment against a gift of 100,000 tons of wheat and maize to Italy left Buenos Ayres.

AUSTRALIA. *April 12.*—It was announced that Australia and New Zealand had agreed on their action as joint trustees of Empire security throughout the Pacific.

*April 13.*—The Prime Minister and the Minister for External Affairs left for London.

AUSTRIA. *April 13.*—Parliament was formally advised of the Allied Council's decision (taken 2 weeks previously) to ask the Government to submit a new Constitution by July 1, and began discussion of the question. The Chancellor stated that Parliament, which had been freely elected, had already decided to return to the Constitution of 1929, and had acted on that understanding.

*April 19.*—The Communist Party congress opened in Vienna, and

was attended by delegates from Bulgaria, Hungary, and Yugoslavia, and the Russian commandant and other Russians. The Americans announced the arrest of 160 persons in their zone, including the Bulgarian, Tsankoff, and the leader of the Nazi party in Yugoslavia.

**BELGIUM.** *April 11.*—The Government secured a vote of confidence in the Senate by 84 votes to 82 (the Left-wing and the Christian-Socialists respectively).

**BRAZIL.** *April 16.*—The Minister of Agriculture stated that they expected to export to Europe in the near future 8 million bags of maize, 5 million bags of rice, and quantities of cocoa, soya beans, and other foodstuffs.

**BULGARIA.** *April 19.*—Tsankoff, the former Premier, was captured in Austria.

**CANADA.** *April 9.*—The Government signed an agreement with France for the provision of a credit of \$242,500,000 to be spent in Canada. Interest was 3 per cent, and repayment was to be made in 30 annual instalments beginning at the end of 1947.

*April 10.*—F.-M. Lord Alexander arrived in Halifax.

*April 11.*—The Minister of Agriculture urged the nation to avoid buying all the food they could do without, to make more food available to the Government for fulfilling its commitments to the British Food Ministry, U.N.R.R.A., and the Governments of needy countries.

*April 12.*—Mrs. Woikin was sentenced to 2½ years' hard labour in Ottawa for supplying secret information to Russia.

*April 20.*—The Government concluded an agreement with France for releasing French properties in Canada that had been under the control of the Canadian custodian since the fall of France. The agreement was reciprocal.

It was announced that the Government had reduced the amount of wheat for distilling by half, and the amount for flour for domestic use by 10 per cent. Between Jan. 1 and April 15, 91 million bushels had been exported.

**CHINA.** *April 12.*—The official news agency reported several attacks by strong bodies of Communists on the Peking-Mukden railway.

Government spokesmen in Chungking complained that the Communists had not carried out the truce agreement of Jan. 10 providing that civil war should cease and troop movements be halted, except that the Government forces had the right to move into Manchuria to restore Chinese sovereignty. The Communists were moving their troops into Manchuria, which they had no right to do. The Communists argued that the Government had been trying to alter the constitutional principles agreed upon so as to obtain an administrative system which would retain strong central authority in Chiang Kai-shek's hands.

*April 14.*—The Soviet withdrawal from Changchun was completed.

A Government garrison took over and imposed martial law and a curfew. The commander stated that some 30,000 Communist troops were massed round the city, and were attacking the airfield.

Chou En-lai stated in Chungking that Manchuria would be turned into a battlefield if the Government continued to ignore the cease-fire order, and described its action in taking over the cities there as "nothing but civil war".

The Minister of War was reported (by the Democratic League) to have offered to limit the number of Government troops in Manchuria if the Communists did not contest their entry into Changchun and Harbin.

The peace teams which went to Manchuria were reported to have failed to persuade either side to carry out the truce terms.

*April 16.*—Communist troops fought their way into Changchun, beginning their attack just before the Russian commander left for Harbin. They were stated to be well armed with Japanese material obtained from the Russians.

*April 17.*—The Democratic League refused to enter a coalition Government in Chungking until civil war had ceased and the other Kuomintang-Communist differences were settled.

*April 19.*—The Communists captured Changchun.

**EGYPT.** *April 19.*—Mr. Hoover, in a broadcast from Cairo, appealed for help for the 150 million people of Europe and Asia who, he said, needed at least 11 million tons of cereals and fats. Of this, only 6 million were available through normal trade supplies. He made 6 "blunt" suggestions to save millions of lives: (1) the U.S. Government should acquire enough wheat, etc., to assure the export of an average of 1,100,000 tons a month in April-July; (2) similar action regarding fats; (3) all nations in Europe which exceeded a cereal ration equal to 300 grs. of bread a day should reduce their ration to 300. This would be a burden to Britain, Holland, and others, but he suggested to the British that, as they were carrying about 1 million tons of breadstuffs in their pipeline and stocks, instead of only half that before the war, they could release 500,000 tons to the starving; (4) If the U.S.A., Canada, and Argentina reduced exports to Chile, Brazil, Mexico, Cuba, etc., by 40 per cent during April-July, and if these countries co-operated by accepting this reduction, it would furnish the most valuable assistance. It would be a translation into action of the most eloquent appeal by the Pope; (5) If Russia's contribution to the pool could be raised to 300,000 tons a month in these 4 months it would be "a great human service"; (6) Priority supplies might be given to the smaller liberated countries which suffered most, as their domestic resources were more limited than others.

He calculated, from surveying the position in 17 countries, that, omitting farmers, able to feed themselves, there were about 170 million people, of whom perhaps 10 per cent could support themselves from the black market and country sources. In making his estimates he had used the "grim and dangerous basis" of about 1,500 calories a day.

He estimated at more than 20 million the sub-normal and diseased children in Europe.

The Foreign Minister described the statement of the Governor of the Sudan as "unilateral", and said the Sudan problem would be discussed independently of the evacuation of British troops from Egypt.

**FRANCE.** *April 8.*—An official of the Quai D'Orsay stated that the ex-Mufti of Jerusalem was living in France "under police protection for his personal safety", but was not under any restrictions as to his movements.

*April 9.*—The debate on the Constitution of the Fourth Republic was opened in the Assembly.

The Government announced its acceptance of Mr. Byrnes's proposal for a meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the "Big Four" on April 25. It sent a Note to the U.S. Government asking that the German question be placed on the agenda for the meeting.

The Government received the British and U.S. replies to the latest Note on Spain. The former declined the French proposals for action, and the U.S. reply rejected the proposal for the application of economic sanctions, but did not close the door to further discussion.

Grant of Canadian credit. (*see Canada.*)

*April 12.*—The Congress of the Confédération Générale du Travail approved by 8,334 votes to 1,292 the national policy of that body, in adopting a report which urged the trade unions to continue with the "battle for production" as an essential means of proving their capacity and of raising the standard of living.

*April 15.*—The President of the Assembly called together the leaders of the three coalition parties to try to reach a solution of the constitutional problem (the M.R.P. having failed to secure the adoption of amendments which they considered essential). They failed to reach a compromise on the question of the election of the President of the Republic, on which the views of M.R.P. and of the Socialists and Communists were directly opposed.

*April 19.*—The draft Constitution was adopted by the Assembly by 309 votes to 249, the M.R.P. and Socialist-Radicals voting against it. The draft provided for the replacement of the Senate by the Council of the French Union, for curtailing the powers of the President of the Republic, and for the replacement of the "separation of powers" by recognition of the people's executive authority expressed through its sovereign representatives.

**GERMANY.** *April 8.*—The joint committee of the 4 political parties addressed an appeal to the Allied Control Council that the proposals for the separation of the Rhineland and the Ruhr should not be carried out. It stated that the Potsdam Declaration foresaw the maintenance of Germany as an economic unit, and pointed out that the Ruhr steel output was dependent on foreign ore, which could be restricted by international regulation to the needs of a peace economy.

*April 11.*—The British zone H.Q. issued a statement at Herford

charging the Polish Government with failure to observe the conditions laid down at Potsdam regarding the expulsion of Germans from Poland. The British Control Commission had received about 170,000 since Mar. 1, making over 300,000 to date, and the Polish authorities were sending an unduly high proportion of the old, sick, and weak, whereas the Potsdam agreement provided for the transfer of the whole German minority. The conditions of transfer were far from satisfactory, and only help provided by the Russians prevented serious suffering during the journey.

*April 12.*—The French authorities in their zone discovered an underground organization and arrested 350 youths.

Military Government in the British zone posted notices informing the people of the truth of the world food situation, and pointing out that Britain herself had been obliged to live on shorter rations since the war and was actually supplying food to Germany.

*April 13.*—The International Committee for the Study of European Questions issued a report showing that the population of Germany had increased since 1939 from 67 to 72 million, including the Germans returning from Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Silesia, and East Prussia. The campaign for more births had resulted in an increase in marriages of 800,000 and in births of 1,566,000 in the 7 years before the war. The Nazi plan had also succeeded in lowering the birth-rate in non-German Europe, where 12 million husbands and wives had been kept separated.

A joint conference of Berlin delegates of the Communist and "official" Social-Democrat Parties was held in Berlin and approved a motion for fusion. Opponents of fusion in the latter party were not present, and all delegates who attended had to sign a statement that they had not taken part in the conference held by opponents of fusion on April 7.

The Bavarian Social-Democrat Party met at Erlangen and was addressed by Major Mayhew, M.P., Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Lord President of the Council, who stated that the British Labour Party viewed with sympathy their refusal to fuse with the Communists. British Labour's view was that democracy was not compatible with the one-party State.

*April 14.*—U.S. Military Government issued a statement on the food position as it was presented by Mr. Hoover, who left Berlin that day. In the U.S. zone there was not enough food procurable from German sources to sustain life even at starvation levels. As in the other zones of Western Germany food must be imported. If the food promised from the U.S.A. arrived, the basic ration of 1,275 calories could be maintained till June 30. The U.S. zone had always been a food-deficit area, and the stoppage of inter-zonal food movements and foreign trade left no alternative to relief shipments until the German economy had been re-established.

*April 17.*—Thirteen Westphalian industrialists were expelled from the Textile Trade Association for their past support of the Nazi Party, bringing the number of persons removed from industry and commerce

in the British zone to over 11,000. (This did not include arrests or exclusions from employment.)

*April 20.*—Conferences in Berlin of the Communist and Social Democrat Parties each adopted resolutions for a fusion.

*April 21.*—The arrest was announced, in the French zone of Gen. von Löhr, former C.-in-C. in the Balkans. Some 60 members of a Werewolf organization, the *Edelweiss*, were arrested in Schleswig-Holstein by the British military police.

A pastoral letter from West German Bishops read in the British zone criticized the treatment of Germans in the East, the detention of prisoners of war, and the operation of the process of "denazification". Over 10 million persons had been brutally driven from their homes without regard to their personal guilt.

**GREAT BRITAIN.** *April 9.*—The Chancellor of the Exchequer introduced the 1946-47 Budget, showing that the realized deficit for 1945-46 was £2,200 million, or £100 million less than the estimates. Towards financing this deficit small savings provided £658 million, and national war bonds, savings bonds, etc., £1,290 million. The net increase in the floating debt was £371 million, leaving the present total at nearly £6,500 million, while the total of the internal debt was £23,000 million.

Estimated expenditure in 1946-47 was £3,837 million, a reduction of 31 per cent, on the estimate of 1945-46. The main heads were Defence and Supply Departments, £1,667 million; Civil Departments £1,652 million; and Consolidated Fund services, £518 million. The debt charge was put at £490 million, or £35 million more than the previous year, and cost-of-living subsidies at £335 million. The policy of price stability was costing a great deal, which had risen since the end of Lend-lease. But the Government considered it wise to hold the cost of living steady, though they could not go on doing it indefinitely, regardless of cost.

Estimated revenue included: Customs and excise, about £1,200 million (an increase of £89 million on 1945-46); income tax, £1,145 million (an increase of £67 million); surtax, £80 million; death duties, £125 million; stamp duties, £29 million; excess profits tax and national-defence contribution, £325 million (a decrease of £141 million).

Total estimated revenue on the existing basis of taxation was £3,193 million, or £91 million less than 1945-46. As against this, expenditure was estimated at £3,887 million. If terminal items were taken out of the account the deficit was reduced to £268 million, meaning that out of every £1 of expenditure they would be paying 18s. 4d. out of revenue.

It was the deficit on their oversea balance of payments that was the serious problem. For 1946 he put it at £750 million. The Budget had been prepared on the assumption that the loan agreement with the U.S.A. would be approved, and if it failed some of the figures he had given would need to be amended, and it might be necessary to introduce some supplementary financial proposals.

As to tax reductions, they must "go slow on reliefs" while goods were

scarce. The income-tax concessions announced in October were worth, in a full year, £322 million to those who benefited. The purchase tax he regarded not as a war-time expedient, but as something which had got to stay and help pay the bill for social betterment. He was removing it altogether, however, from several necessities such as those used in the kitchen and house, and reducing it on others. Entertainments tax would be reduced on all outdoor sports except horse, motor, and dog racing.

Income-tax was now 9s. in the £1, and the personal allowances were being raised from £80 to £110 for a single person and from £140 to £180 for a married couple, and the exemption limit was being raised from £110 to £120 a year, and the standard rate reduced so that the first £50 of taxable income was now taxed at only 3s., and the next £75 at only 6s. in the £1. These changes resulted in 2 million people being exempted altogether from income-tax, and would cost the revenue £283 million that year.

Post-war credits would be repaid as from Sept. 1 to men over 65 and women over 60, and the special allowance of £80 to married women in industry would be raised to £110. Further, the earned income allowance would be raised from one tenth to one eighth. Excess profits tax he proposed to repeal altogether from Dec. 31, 1946. Estate duties would be removed altogether from estates of less than £2,000, and reduced for those of under £7,500, but those over £12,500 would pay more, on a rising scale up to a maximum of 75 per cent.

As to the net result of these changes, the concessions — including increases in earned income reliefs — would cost £47 million. Estate duties would bring in £15 million extra, making a net loss of £32 million. Total revenue should amount to £3,161 million, and expenditure £3,887 million. Allowing for the terminal items, however, the deficit should only be £300 million.

He proposed to carry £50 million received from the sale of war stores to a special fund, called the National Land Fund, for the purchase and upkeep of land for national use.

*April 10.*—The Prime Minister wrote to all civic heads and chairmen of local food committees appealing for their co-operation in a campaign to reduce waste of food and to stimulate production.

The Government informed the Combined Food Board that they would ration bread if the U.S. Government would also do so. Statement by the U.S. Secretary for Agriculture. (*see U.S.A.*)

*April 11.*—Mr. Attlee, replying to questions in Parliament, said that when the Food Minister was in Washington provisional proposals were made for the distribution of wheat up to the end of June. It now appeared that supplies from the U.S.A. and other supplying countries were not coming forward in sufficient quantities to meet these proposals, and the short-fall would affect Britain, India, other parts of the Commonwealth, occupied countries, and other countries in which Britain had special responsibilities, as well as all those for which U.N.R.R.A. was responsible. The situation could be met only by the united action of all countries, and by the sharing of all resources in the

same way as in the war, and if that principle was followed Britain was ready to play her part, and would not fall behind in the contribution she would make. "We are willing," he said, "to ration bread if the supplying countries are prepared to do the same. Alternatively we are ready to take administrative measures to save wheat and flour which are comparable in their effect to those which the supplying countries are prepared to adopt. . . ."

Mr. Bevin, speaking at Manchester, said the Cabinet had been giving serious consideration to the whole problem of fats, and explained why a shortage of rice in India reduced the supply of fats to England. As regards wheat the Commonwealth was responding magnificently, and the Government had also been in touch with nearly every country in the world to get them to bend their energies to prevent famine continuing next winter.

*April 12.*—The Dutch Prime Minister, Foreign Minister, the Minister for Oversea Territories, and the Lieut.-Governor-General of the N.E.I. arrived in London and began discussions with Mr. Attlee, Mr. Bevin, Lord Inverchapel, and others on the future of Indonesia. An official statement said "agreement was reached as regards the measures still necessary to liquidate the war with Japan and the gradual withdrawal of British troops and their replacement by Dutch forces".

*April 16.*—A motion moved by Lord Vansittart "that the re-establishment of an overcentralized Germany is incompatible with European security" was agreed to in the House of Lords. The Lord Chancellor said that from his inquiries there was no indication that the ordinary Germans felt any regret, repentance, or indignation at the things which had been done by the German leaders. The Government took the view that nothing that had happened recently should modify its attitude at Potsdam that no central Government should yet be established in Germany. Local initiative was being encouraged. They desired to seek the middle of the road between excessive centralization and the administrative disintegration with which they had to cope after their entry into Germany.

Mr. Attlee announced in Parliament that from Oct. 1, 1941 to March 31, 1946 Great Britain supplied to the Soviet Union 5,218 tanks, of which 1,388 were from Canada; and 7,411 aircraft, including 3,129 sent from U.S.A. The total value of military supplies amounted to approximately £308 million, and of civilian and industrial supplies £120 million. 41 outward convoys went to Russia during the war.

*April 19.*—Mr. Chifley arrived in London.

*April 20.*—A Government statement was broadcast citing the statement the previous day by the U.S. Secretary for Agriculture regarding the measures to reduce the consumption of wheat, and going on: "As announced in the statement to the press on April 10, H.M. Government is prepared to play its part. It will shortly announce the measures to be taken in this country for economizing wheat consumption."

**GREECE.** *April 8.*—The Cabinet announced that, following the receipt of the King's reply to Archbishop Damaskinos, the Regent

was  
she  
poly-  
ady  
com-  
are  
  
ing  
why  
As  
and  
in  
ine  
  
the  
ee,  
sia.  
the  
ual  
s".  
ab-  
ean  
lor  
ary  
ch  
ew  
at  
in  
eek  
is-  
try  
  
to  
ks,  
20  
to  
ies  
  
te-  
ng  
As  
nt  
be  
  
he  
nt

would be asked to remain in office. (The King was understood to have left the decision to the Cabinet.)

E.A.M. and the other left-wing groups which boycotted the elections sent an appeal to the British, French, U.S., and Soviet Governments to refer the Greek problem either to the Big Three or to U.N.O.

*April 9.*—Official figures of the party strength in Parliament were issued showing: Populists, 191 seats; Political Unionists, 56; Liberals, 42; Zervas Party, 17; Tourkovassilis (Royalist) Party, 8; and Independents, 3. The remaining 37 seats would be allocated on the basis of second and third counts of preferences marked on the ballot papers. Of the 1,850,000 registered electors the number who voted for the Royalist groups was about 710,000.

The Regent declined the Cabinet's request to remain in office until the National Assembly met on April 29.

*April 10.*—The Regent received a message from Mr. Bevin expressing the hope that he would remain in office. He accordingly decided to defer his final decision until after the Cabinet meeting next day.

*April 11.*—The Regent, after seeing the Prime Minister, agreed to remain in office. M. Tsaldaris told the press after a Cabinet meeting that "after taking into consideration all the factors" it had decided to ask the Regent to remain "during this period of transition".

The Electoral Mission issued a statement summarizing the main conclusions of their report. It stated that the elections were conducted under conditions that warranted holding them on the date selected. They were on the whole free and fair, and the results represented a true and valid verdict of the people. This was the Mission's final judgment after analysis of factual information gathered in all parts of Greece by 240 trained observation teams throughout the period of pre-election campaigning, on polling day, and in the few days immediately after.

If the Leftist parties which abstained had voted, the single-House Parliament elected would now include perhaps 20 per cent, but certainly not more than 25 per cent of representatives of those parties. The Populist Party had a majority in the vote and had a majority in the Parliament. Nearly all the remaining votes and seats were won by the National Political Union, a party co-operating with the Populists, and the Liberal Party, under M. Sophoulis.

While some of the registration lists of voters had been compiled before the election and were satisfactory, others had not been corrected by striking off the names of all the dead and others not qualified, and the total registration figures were therefore inaccurate. The population numbered about 7½ million, and a maximum of 1,980,000 were qualified to be registered. The number actually validly registered was 1,850,000, and the number who voted was 1,117,000, or 60 per cent. The 40 per cent who did not vote included an estimated 9.3 per cent who allegedly abstained for "party" reasons, and varying percentages for other reasons not identifiable with political strategy. The estimate for deliberate abstainers was 280,000, and of the registered voters who did not vote only 11,000 could be definitely regarded as having abstained because unfairly prevented from doing so. The Mission found that the

opportunity for fraud presented by the exaggerated registration lists was not exploited.

Some intimidation by both sides was found, but was not general enough to affect the result.

The presence of British troops had no effect whatever on the results, and the police as a whole were loyal to their duties, but some of the gendarmerie showed partisanship.

The observer teams visited 1,556 polling places before polling day, watched the actual polling all day at 105 selected places, visited 708 other polling places on the day, and conducted many post-election inquiries and special investigations of complaints. Close contact was maintained between the Mission and the officials of the Government responsible for decisions and preparations for the election.

*April 12.*—The Foreign Minister telegraphed to Mr. Bevin to thank the British Government for its assistance during the elections, which, he said, had "restored Greece to full possession of her powers of recuperation and rehabilitation".

A Royalist paper published a violent attack on the Regent, and 165 Royalist Deputies telegraphed to the King to express their determination to uphold strictly constitutional procedure. They said the solution of the Regency question was unconstitutional, as under the Constitution the Royal prerogatives were invested in the Cabinet whenever the King was abroad. The Cabinet ought therefore to have taken over the functions of the Regency.

The secretary of the Communist Party, speaking at Salonika, said that a new life had begun in the countries to the north, where a large part of industry was owned by the people, and reconstruction was being carried out on a big scale. The only black spot was Turkey, which must be thrust out of Europe.

*April 13.*—MM. Venizelos and Kanellopoulos threatened to resign, as they considered the Populists' criticism of the maintenance of the Regent in office to be inconsistent with the line they had been following.

*April 15.*—M. Tsaldaris was elected leader of the Populist Party.

*April 16.*—Mr. Hoover arrived in Athens.

*April 17.*—The Prime Minister resigned. The three deputy Premiers also resigned, owing to dissension between their party (the centre *bloc*) and the Populist Party, especially on the "political handling of the plebiscite question".

The Regent asked M. Tsaldaris to form a Ministry.

Mr. Hoover issued an appeal to Britain to divert to Greece 100,000 tons of food on its way from Canada to the U.K., saying that U.N.R.R.A. supplies in Greece were almost exhausted and it would be necessary to reduce rations to 500 calories a day. Greece was in a worse position than any country he had visited.

*April 18.*—M. Tsaldaris formed a Cabinet, with M. Theotokis as Minister of the Interior; M. Helmis, Finance; and M. Mavromichalis, Defence. The Premier took the Portfolio of Foreign Affairs. All the Ministers belonged to Royalist parties.

The Centre *bloc* refused to join the Government because M.

Tsaldaris rejected their demand for portfolios with administrative responsibility.

The Government presented to the British Ambassador two memoranda, one dealing with Albania's share in the Italian attack on Greece, and the other setting out a claim to Northern Epirus.

*April 19.*—The Communist Party issued a manifesto saying that "the Elections and the monstrous report of the Allied mission are aimed at justifying before world opinion the British policy of securing strategic bases in Greece against the democratic Balkans . . ."

**HUNGARY.** *April 8.*—The signature of a reparations agreement with Russia was announced, and that the Cabinet had approved oil and shipping agreements within the frame of the commercial treaty with Russia which came into force on Jan. 11.

*April 9.*—The Government announced a plan to re-establish the finances and currency, for which purpose, it stated, it would be necessary for the State to keep the key position in industry for itself, to direct private enterprise, and to exercise strict control over banking. Coal, bauxite, and oil would be nationalized by July 1, and by May 1 the land reform would be complete. Rationing would be extended to all important consumer goods.

**INDIA.** *April 9.*—The convention of Muslim League members of the central and provincial Legislatures took an oath that they would "undergo any danger, trial, or sacrifice which may be demanded" for the attainment of Pakistan.

*April 11.*—A statement issued from the Viceroy's House said the Cabinet Mission had heard the opinions of the most important political elements, and accordingly were now proposing to enter upon the next and most important phase of negotiations, a phase which called on the utmost efforts from the leading statesmen, and from the Mission. The Mission hoped that much progress towards reaching the decision the people so anxiously awaited would be made before they left for their short recess at the end of the next week. During their absence there would be an opportunity for decisive consultations between the Indian parties, and when the Mission returned they hoped to find sufficient elements of agreement on which a settlement would be based.

*April 16.*—The Leader of the House announced in the Legislative Assembly that if the Asiatic Land Tenure and Indian Representation Bill was passed by the South African Parliament the Government would bring the question of the status of Indians in S. Africa before the U.N.O.

**INDO-CHINA.** *April 11.*—An agreement was signed at Hanoi embodying the conditions of the joint French and Annamese occupation of the Republic of Viet-Namh. There would be a garrison of both armies in Hanoi, but a French one only at Haiphong for the time being.

**JAPAN.** *April 9.*—The Premier broadcast an address to the electorate urging them to vote. The Government published a statement made by

the Emperor to Baron Shidihara ordering "every convenience" to be extended to voters.

*April 10.*—The General Election took place, under the direct supervision of the Allied occupation forces. Polling was heavy, and women voters in some districts outnumbered the men.

*April 11.*—The Election results showed: Liberals, 122 seats; Progressives, 88; Socialists, 79; Independents (mostly conservative), 75; non-party, 12; and Communists, 3. Women cast over a third of the total vote, and 32 candidates were returned.

*April 12.*—Allied H.Q. announced that the election was "satisfactory".

*April 16.*—Baron Shidihara announced that he intended to remain in office at least till the draft of the new Constitution was ratified by the Diet and the political situation stabilized. The Election had not produced one political grouping able to agree on a programme for reconstruction.

JAVA. *April 10.*—Some 2,500 Dutch troops arrived in Bandoeng by air.

*April 17.*—Three Australian officers were ambushed and killed by extremists just south of Buitenzorg.

*April 21.*—The Indonesian "Government" expressed regret to the Australian Political Representative and said that everything was being done to bring those guilty of the murders to justice.

MALAYA. *April 15.*—A south-east Asia food conference opened in Singapore with Lord Killearn in the chair.

*April 16.*—The Pan-Malayan Malay Congress issued a statement saying that Malays recognized the need for both Malayan Union and common citizenship, but the fundamental issue was the transference to the British Crown of the sovereign rights over the Malay States, and the Malayan Union proposals were only the outcome of that transference. The people's fight was for the return of those sovereign rights and the restoration of the States to the position of protectorates within the British Commonwealth. The transference of jurisdiction and sovereign rights over the States to the British Crown was regarded by Malays as illegal, as it was carried out against the wishes of the Malays and their rulers.

A conference of Malay rulers decided to continue their protest against the proposals for a Malayan Union.

*April 17.*—The Governor of the Union told the press that he was quite willing to meet the Sultans at any time.

THE NETHERLANDS *April 9.*—The conference opened in Holland of the Government's and the Indonesian representatives.

*April 12.*—Discussions in London *re* Indonesia. (see Great Britain.)

*April 18.*—The new International Court of Justice was opened in The Hague by the President, Señor Guerrera, the last President of the Permanent Court.

PALESTINE. *April 12.*—The General Council of Palestine Jews decided that representatives of the community should go on hunger strike until 1,200 Jewish displaced persons hunger-striking in a refugee ship at Spezia were permitted to enter Palestine. Fifteen leaders accordingly began a hunger strike.

*April 13.*—Two military camps north of Tel Aviv were raided by armed Jews, who stole some arms.

*April 15.*—A strike of 4,000 railwaymen began in sympathy with a postal workers' strike which had been going on since April 9 for better pay and conditions.

*April 16.*—A strike of some 50,000 Jewish and Arab members of the Junior Civil Servants Association began for higher cost-of-living allowances and other advantages, holding up work on the railways, in ports, and in Government offices. The Government described the strike as "unjustified and seeking to hold the Government and country to ransom". The 15 hunger strikers ended their strike on being informed by the High Commissioner that the refugees held at Spezia would be allowed to enter Palestine.

*April 19.*—The Jewish Agency submitted to the United Nations Committee for Refugees and Displaced Persons a memorandum setting out the reasons for freer immigration. Several suggestions were made, including one that 100,000 should be admitted immediately.

*April 21.*—The Government announced that it was prepared to recommend to the Colonial Secretary a number of proposals—estimated to cost over £2 million—to achieve a settlement of the civil servants' strike. They included a scheme for the re-grading of posts in the junior branches, another for back pay, and a review of war compensatory allowances.

PERSIA. *April 8.*—The text of the oil agreement was published. Persia agreed that the area covered by it should not be given for exploitation by any foreign company, foreign-Persian company, or Persian company backed by foreign interests. According to official Soviet reports, the area allotted to the new oil company was bounded on the south by a line starting from the point of intersection of the frontiers of Russia, Turkey, and Persia, running south to Lake Rizaich, and along its eastern shore to Mianduab, thence east to Ghilavan, and through Masule, Ambalu, Holar, Natir, Taprusta, and Kank-Kela, then south again, and east for some distance, turning north to Shahrud and Abersij, finally bending east through Nardin and Quchan to the point of inter-section of the frontiers of Russia, Persia, and Afghanistan. The agreement was for 50 years, at the end of which Persia would have the right either to buy up the Russian holdings or extend the period of the joint company's operations.

It was stated in Teheran that troops were being sent to all the places evacuated by the Russians in Mazanderan and at Kazvin and Resht to quell a rising by right wing leaders who objected to the oil agreement. Rebel H.Q. at Shahi were raided and some arrests made.

*April 9.*—Gen. Arfa, the former Chief of the General Staff, was

arrested, and a Government spokesman described him as a traitor, who had been arming robber bands in the north.

The Tudeh Party in Azerbaijan expelled Mahmoud Froughi, manager there of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co.

*April 13.*—Brigadier Head and Mr. Michael Foot left Persia after visiting several centres, but were not permitted to go to Russian-occupied Azerbaijan.

*April 14.*—The Prime Minister announced that he had sent instructions to Hussein Ala to inform the Security Council of the Government's confidence that the agreement with Russia would be honourably carried out. He had reliable evidence that Soviet troops were evacuating many parts of Azerbaijan, and Tudeh representatives had been asked to take part in talks with Persian representatives in the near future, after which it was hoped that Government forces would eventually go into Azerbaijan.

The Azerbaijan radio stated that the Central Government had not yet approached the Azerbaijan Government, which "continues to carry out its programme of reforms".

*April 15.*—Telegram to Ambassador in Washington withdrawing complaint to Security Council. (see *The Security Council Meeting*.)

*April 16.*—The Premier, in a statement which was broadcast, complained that some people did not understand freedom and thought they were allowed to attack the rights of others. It was the duty of every Government to maintain public security, and their aim was to put down all disorders, which were the real cause of the breakdown of administration.

*April 17.*—The Under-Secretary for Post and Telegraphs received a number of British and U.S. pressmen who asked why some messages to London had been stopped. He replied that there was no censorship, but that the Government had applied Article 26 of the International Communications Convention, Madrid, 1932, which gave them the right to stop any message considered harmful to the interests of the State.

*April 18.*—A Government spokesman issued a statement denying the existence of a censorship. He said a British press correspondent had prepared telegrams with "contents which were against the throne, and other fantastic stories and rumours the circulation of which here is contrary to the law...."

The Tudeh paper *Ahbar* warned the Government against sending troops to Azerbaijan before negotiations with the "Democrat Government" had been opened.

*April 20.*—The Premier issued orders for all troops along the Azerbaijan and Kurdistan frontiers to remain in their garrison posts and "avoid any move that might result in a rupture of the peace".

The resignation of the Chief of the General Staff was reported.

**POLAND.** *April 9.*—M. Mikolajczyk's Peasant Party decided to join the other 5 parties and take part in the referendum, proposed by the Socialists, to be held in June as an interim measure before the

elections. Appeal to the Security Council for action against the Spanish Government. (*see The Security Council.*)

*April 11.*—Accusations against the Government respecting the expulsion of the German minority. (*see Germany.*)

It was announced in Warsaw that the whole Polish population in Lithuania had expressed the desire to leave, and settle in Poland. Some 80,000 had lately arrived from Vilna and the neighbourhood, and 200,000 had registered to leave Lithuania, and were expected in Warsaw before August.

Of Germans in Poland some 180,000 had left for the British zone, and 1½ million more were to be deported at the rate of 250,000 a month. Many thousands of Poles were arriving each day from beyond the Curzon Line, and from Russia.

A British mission arrived in western Poland to supervise the deportations of Germans.

**SOUTH AFRICA.** *April 17.*—The Asiatic Land Tenure and Indian Representation Bill passed its third reading.

**SPAIN.** *April 13.*—The Minister of Education denied categorically that any German scientist was engaged in research in Spain. The Government publicly invited the nations with which Spain had friendly relations to investigate the facts on condition that the results of the inquiry be made fully known. (This excluded Russia, China, Poland, Mexico, and Australia.)

*April 14.*—The official journal published a "freezing" order applying to 330 firms owned or controlled by Germans. The order was issued in accordance with a resolution adopted at the Bretton Woods Conference, and the decision was taken in agreement with the Allied Control Commission Office in Madrid.

*April 17.*—The Foreign Minister presented a Note to the British Ambassador and to the U.S. representative expressing anxiety as to the threatening attitude of Communists and other extremists in Southern France. It accused Russia of supplying them with arms and other assistance.

**THE SUDAN.** *April 17.*—The Governor-General, addressing the Advisory Council, said that he felt confident that within 20 years the Sudanese would be governing their own country, assisted and advised by non-Sudanese specialists and technicians.

**SYRIA AND THE LEBANON.** *April 15.*—The last contingent of British troops left Damascus, and the last French detachment left the airfield nearby.

*April 17.*—The day was observed as a national holiday in Syria to mark the departure of the foreign troops.

**U.S.A.** *April 8.*—Mr. Byrnes announced that both Britain and Russia

had accepted his proposal, made on April 5, that a Foreign Ministers' meeting of the "Big Four" should be held in Paris on April 25.

*April 9.*—The Senate Military Affairs Committee recommended the unification of the armed forces under a civilian Secretary of Common Defence.

*April 10.*—The Senate Banking and Currency Committee, by 14 votes to 5, recommended to Congress approval of the loan to Britain.

The Secretary for Agriculture announced that at the meeting of the Combined Food Board Britain was asked to give up temporarily shipments of wheat from Canada, and to allow a further lowering of her domestic stocks to meet urgent needs in Europe. Britain had agreed, but only if she received an assurance from the U.S.A. that stocks would and could be replenished from American supplies when the winter wheat crop was harvested in June or July. In a formal statement he also said, "Circumstances that would make rationing workable in England are entirely different from conditions in the United States. It is much easier for a small nation depending mostly on imports to control distribution of wheat than for a large nation like the U.S. which produces so much wheat over such a large area". It did not seem likely that they could put rationing into effect for a difficult commodity like bread in time to help the critical period between then and the next harvest, but they were prepared to take any steps necessary to restrict the use of wheat enough to meet their export goals for the hungry nations. He told the press that he was unable to give the British any definite assurance that the U.S.A. would be able later in the year to replenish stocks if present shipments to the U.K. were diverted. The stock position in Britain was a good deal more favourable than in many other countries.

Mr. Hoover reported to the President that wide-spread starvation in Europe was inevitable in the next 3 months unless the programme of the U.S. famine emergency committee for shipments to Europe was fully realized.

*April 11.*—It was stated in Washington that the Government would support Poland's proposal for discussion of the Spanish question by the Security Council, but reserved its opinion on any proposed action until the Polish case had been heard.

President Truman told the press that the food position was improving to some extent, but the next 90 days would be crucial. He also said the Budget of the United States had been revised, owing to revenue exceeding expectations, and receipts for the fiscal year 1946 were expected to be \$42,900 million. Expenditure was now estimated at \$64,700 million.

The Government received a Note, dated April 5, from the Yugoslav Government declining to accede to the U.S. request for permission for American service men to give evidence at the trial of Mihailovitch.

*April 12.*—In an address on the anniversary of Mr. Roosevelt's death President Truman proclaimed his allegiance to his predecessor's "principles of international collaboration", and his determination to do everything possible "to make U.N.O. a strong and living organization,

ers'  
the  
non  
14.  
the  
irily  
her  
eed,  
ould  
nter  
also  
and  
uch  
trol  
ich  
ely  
like  
ext  
strict  
gry  
any  
to  
The  
any  
in  
e of  
was  
uld  
by  
ion  
ing  
the  
ex-  
700  
lav  
for  
ath  
or's  
do  
on,

to find effective means of alleviating suffering and distress, and to deal fairly with all nations".

The Secretary of Commerce stated at a public dinner that the first duty of Americans was to save the famine-threatened millions of the world from death. That meant they must not consume more than they did in 1940.

*April 13.*—The House of Representatives, against the advice of the President and heads of the Services, declined to extend the Selective Service Act except with amendments which provided for suspension of all inductions to the forces between May 15 and Oct. 15 and relieved all men of 18 and 19 from military service.

A message was read to all high schools in New York from Justice Jackson (U.S. prosecutor at Nuremberg) stating that, though fighting had ceased, "the underlying conflicts which set Europe fighting have not been solved". It was America's selfish interest as well as the interest of civilization that she should not shirk her responsibility as a victor, and "the next world war must be stopped where the last two have started—in Europe".

*April 15.*—It was announced that Mr. Byrnes had informed France that America had no objection to discussion of German questions such as the Ruhr and the Rhineland by the Foreign Ministers' conference provided these discussions came after the Peace Treaty drafts had been completed.

*April 18.*—The Government recognized the Yugoslav Government.

Mr. Byrnes sent a third Note to Moscow about the suggested loan of \$1,000 million to Russia.

*April 19.*—The President broadcast an appeal to the nation to reduce their consumption of food, saying "We should all be better off physically and spiritually if we ate less. On two days weekly let us reduce our consumption to that of the average person in hungry lands . . . millions will surely die unless we eat less . . ." He said the Government were taking "strong measures" to export a million tons of wheat a month during the first half of 1946. Their reserve stocks were low, but they were going to whittle that reserve even further; "Americans cannot remain healthy and happy in the same world where millions of human beings are starving".

Mr. Hoover's broadcast from Cairo. (*see Egypt.*) Mr. La Guardia also broadcast, saying they were not doing enough, and must do more. Czechoslovakia, Poland, Yugoslavia, Greece, Italy, Austria, Albania, and China would be without bread in a few days unless they rushed boatloads of wheat at once.

The Secretary for Agriculture broadcast a statement announcing a cut in flour production by 25 per cent as from April 23. He offered farmers a bonus of 30 cents a bushel on all wheat delivered by May 15, and a similar one on 50 million bushels of maize if delivered by the same date.

*U.S.S.R. April 10.*—Moscow radio stated that M. Gromyko had been relieved of his post of Ambassador to the U.S.A. because of his appoint-

ment as permanent Soviet representative to the Security Council. M. Nicolas Novikov had been appointed Ambassador.

*April 14.*—Moscow radio reported the signature of trade pacts with Poland and Czechoslovakia, whose representatives had just left Moscow.

YUGOSLAVIA. *April 18.*—Recognition of the Government by the U.S.A. (see *U.S.A.*) (The Government had on April 2 given a formal assurance that it was prepared to observe existing treaties and agreements with the U.S.A.)

*April 20.*—Marshal Tito was reported to have presented a claim to the Allies for reparations from Italy of 9,900 million dollars for damage and losses sustained between 1941 and 1943.

*April 21.*—Marshal Tito sent a letter of thanks to U.N.R.R.A.'s headquarters for its help, which was "of vital importance and extremely precious to our country".

## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

*April 8.*—A special committee set up by direction of the U.N. Assembly to arrange for the protection, rehabilitation, and final re-settlement of refugees and D.P.s met in London, and was attended by delegates from 22 countries.

The Assembly of the League of Nations met at Geneva to deal with the transfer of its assets and powers to the U.N.O. Thirty-four States were represented. The Argentine delegation left the meeting after Argentina had failed to secure election as one of the 8 vice-presidents of the Assembly. (Nominations were by secret ballot in a secret session.)

*April 10.*—The Combined Food Board met in Washington. It received a Note from the British Government stating their willingness to ration bread if the United States was prepared to adopt the same policy. Short of that they were prepared to adopt administrative measures of a comparably effective nature to those which the United States was prepared to adopt designed to save wheat and flour, so that both countries could make their fullest contribution in the interests of the people of the world.

*April 11.*—In the League Assembly the delegates of Australia, New Zealand, and Belgium made declarations on the future of Mandates, and the Indian representative also made a statement.

*April 12.*—In the League of Nations Assembly the Argentine delegate stated that a new spirit was permeating all classes in Argentina, and that the people were at one with the principles and purpose of the Charter. The Assembly agreed to allow Austria to send representatives to the session as observers.

The Combined Food Board met behind closed doors. Mr. La Guardia told the press that though U.N.R.R.A. relief shipments in March totalled the record amount of 1,526,000 tons, food shipments were still 41 per cent short of the goal for the month, and January and February also showed shortages.

*April 14.*—The Combined Food Board received an urgent request from Gen. MacArthur for 1½ million tons of wheat for Japan.

Mr. La Guardia cabled to Mr. Noel Baker an appeal to Britain for the "greatest possible sacrifice" in order to make her stocks of wheat available for Europe, promising that they would be replaced later.

*April 16.*—In the League Assembly a proposal that Russia should share in the distribution of the League's assets was rejected, because any such change in the scheme would have created insurmountable difficulties.

Gen. MacArthur reduced his appeal for wheat to 670,000 tons.

*April 18.*—The President of the League Assembly declared the 21st session closed, after the adoption of final resolutions dissolving both the League and the Permanent Court of International Justice.

## THE SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING

*April 9.*—The Council met to consider a report on rules of procedure, and M. Gromyko attended. Mr. Quo announced that important communications had been received from the Russian, Persian, and Polish representatives. Hussein Ala's letter said that he was instructed to say that the position of his Government remained as stated to the Council at the session of April 4, and "it is the desire of my Government that the matters referred by Iran to the Security Council should remain on its agenda, as provided by the resolution adopted on April 4".

The Polish letter stated that Dr. Lange would be forwarding a request to have the matter of Franco Spain put on the agenda.

*April 10.*—The Council met in secret session. Dr. Lange's letter stated that a series of developments had made it clear that the activities of the Franco régime had already caused international friction and endangered peace. He instanced the closing of the Franco-Spanish frontier, the concentration of Spanish troops on the border, the giving of refuge to Nazis and war criminals, and to Nazi assets, and declared that "it allows and promotes research by German scientists engaged in devising new means of warfare".

*April 15.*—The Council received a letter from Hussein Ala stating that his Government had on April 14 instructed him to inform the Council that, under the agreement with Russia, the Soviet troops would evacuate all Persia by May 6, and "the Persian Government has no doubt that this agreement will be carried out, but at the same time it has not the right to fix the course that the Security Council should take". That morning he had received a further telegram reading: "In view of the fact that the Soviet Ambassador has again to-day, April 14, categorically reiterated that the unconditional evacuation of the Persian territory by the Red Army will be completed by May 6 it is necessary that you immediately inform the Council that the Persian Government has complete confidence in the word and pledge of the Soviet Government, and for this reason withdraws its complaint from the Security Council".

M. Gromyko again asked for the case to be removed from the agenda, declaring that what had happened had merely confirmed information he gave the Council in the first place: the original Persian demand had been unfounded. The Council's resolution of April 4 could have been justified only if the Persian situation constituted a threat to international peace. To think so was to show no sense of reality. The resolution was contrary both to the spirit and letter of the Charter.

Further, the Council could not take a decision without having first heard the parties immediately concerned. Discussion had been unilateral, and, furthermore, there was a legal aspect. When the Council took a decision on a situation or in a dispute it presupposed that it had already decided whether the matter before it was a situation or a dispute. But that had not been done.

Mr. Stettinius emphasized that the Persian Government's complaint had been properly brought to their attention under Article 34.

and it was their clear duty to receive the complaint of any sovereign State that foreign troops were remaining on its territory without its consent beyond the treaty date. Such complaints presented grave issues. On April 4 the Council had before it the Russian assurance that the withdrawal of troops would be completed by May 6 and was not conditioned by other matters being discussed by the two Governments. These assurances and their acceptance by Persia were the basis upon which the Council acted—the action of the Council on April 4 was to continue the matter till May 6 in the hope and belief that the withdrawal of the troops by that date would have disposed of all phases of the matter before the Council. Thus the assurances and the action taken by the Council were interdependent.

To reconsider the case now would only raise new difficulties, and his Government saw no valid grounds for changing the procedure adopted on April 4, and would not therefore support the motion for deletion of the matter from the agenda. On May 6 they sincerely hoped that, on being informed that the withdrawal of the troops had been completed, the Council would be able to drop the matter from the agenda.

Mr. van Kleffens said the Council acted for all members of the United Nations and had the duty to report to the Assembly. It would be open to criticism if it dropped a matter before the settlement had been carried into effect. Whatever Persia said or did not say the Council had a responsibility of its own. As for the point that it had taken a decision in M. Gromyko's absence, the veto right of great Powers was a limited right, and therefore could not be extended beyond the terms of the Charter by a great Power who was a party to a question before the Council simply by absenting itself from the deliberations.

Sir Alexander Cadogan categorically opposed the Russian request. He hoped it was true that the agreement on the withdrawal of Soviet troops had removed the threat to peace, but there was no certainty of that at the time when the Council passed its resolution. The Council now found itself in a position where it had been given certain assurances by Moscow, which it gladly accepted as to certain action that would be completed in the future. That was a matter between Russia and the Council as such. The Council would be failing in its duty if it took no further interest in the case, but washed its hands of it.

The delegates of Australia, Brazil, Egypt, and Mexico opposed the Russian demand, but the French and Polish delegates advocated deleting the item from the agenda.

*April 16.*—The Council dealt with a letter from the Secretary-General of the United Nations stating that the Council's decision "may institute an important precedent" and should be considered most carefully. It reviewed the stages of the Persian case, and went on, "it is therefore arguable that following the withdrawal by the Persian representative the question is automatically removed from the agenda unless (a) the Security Council votes an investigation under Article 34, or (b) a member brings it up as a situation or dispute under Article 35, or (c) the Council proceeds under Article 36".

The Council was originally seized of the question under Article 35,

para. 1, but Persia had withdrawn her complaint, so no dispute existed. The only Article under which the Council could act was Article 34, but that could only be invoked by a vote to investigate, which had not been taken or even suggested. On the other hand, it might be argued that once the matter was brought to the Council's attention it was no longer one solely between the original parties, but of interest to the Council collectively. That might be true, but it would appear that the only way in which, under the Charter, the Council could exercise that interest was under Article 34 or Article 36, para. 1. As it had not invoked either of these it might well be that there was no way in which it could remain seized of the matter.

The letter was referred to the Committee of Experts. In the debate, M. Gromyko said he wondered whether the U.S.A. and Great Britain genuinely desired a settlement of the Persian case.

Mr. Stettinius said he thought that accusations against the motives of any of the United Nations should be avoided. He could not agree that the resolution of the Council of April 4 was illegal and that it was not within the power of the Council to keep the matter on the agenda. The principal factor was the presence of Soviet troops in Persia, and "the Council cannot ignore the fact that the sudden reversal by the Persian Government of the position which it has steadfastly maintained until yesterday occurred while Soviet troops were still physically in Persia". The retention of the case on the agenda was not an infringement of the sovereign rights of Persia. On the contrary, the parties had the opportunity of demonstrating to the Council and the world that the Council's confidence in the assurance received was fully justified.

M. Gromyko said that hitherto the request to exclude the Persian question from the agenda had been refused on the ground that the Persian Government wished it to be retained. Now that the Persian Government had no objection to its withdrawal, the logical conclusion was that the question should be dropped.

Mr. van Kleffens said the issue was this: "Who is the master of the Council's agenda—the Council or the States who are parties to a dispute or situation?" As the Council admitted a question to the agenda, the Council alone could strike it off.

The Chinese delegate said that if the Russian motion were put to the vote he would stand by the Council's resolution of April 4. M. Bonnet reiterated his view that the case should be dropped.

Dr. Quo, as chairman, agreed that no vote should be taken until the report of the Committee of Experts had been received. He said, however, that whatever observations the Council might receive from Mr. Lie the decision remained with the Council.

*April 17.*—The Council dealt with the Polish case against Spain, and Dr. Lange asked the members of the United Nations to accept a resolution reading: "The Council declares that the existence and activities of the Franco régime have led to international friction and endangered international peace and security. In accordance with the authority vested in it under Articles 39 and 41 of the Charter the Council calls upon all members of the U.N. who maintain diplomatic

relations with the Franco Government to sever such relations immediately . . . ."

Dr. Lange recalled events since the Franco régime came into existence, and declared that Spain was the last surviving partner of the Axis and should be treated like such satellites as Hungary, Rumania, and Bulgaria. Franco now had 600,000 men under arms, 200,000 of them in Catalonia alone. He described the closing of the French frontier as "international friction likely to endanger international security . . . ." He also declared that German scientists were working on nuclear energy at a place near Ocana and on other work in that direction with Franco's permission and encouragement. Spain had become the refuge of tens of thousands of Nazis, and about 2,000 Gestapo agents had been incorporated in the *Direction de la Seguridad* (the security police) and given Spanish citizenship. Many Vichy militiamen were also being harboured.

*April 18.*—The sub-committee of experts failed to reach unanimity on the question of the Secretary-General's letter, the majority, of 8, regarding his interpretation as too rigidly legalistic, and the minority (Russia, Poland, and France) agreeing with him. It issued a report saying that it had decided that, by reason of the technical nature of its competence, "it would study from an abstract point of view, without referring to the concrete case submitted to the Council, the problem of whether the Council can remain seized of the matter after the interested parties have requested its withdrawal". There was "agreement in principle" that when a matter had been submitted to the Council by a party "it cannot be withdrawn from the list of matters of which the Security Council is seized without a decision by the Council".

The varying views of the two groups were set out. The delegates of Australia, Brazil, China, Egypt, Mexico, the Netherlands, the U.K., and the U.S.A. said Mr. Lie's letter referred only to a dispute, and treated such dispute as a lawsuit. Such definition implied an inexact understanding of the functions of the Council—which was not a court of justice—and also of the nature of its competence, which included the consideration of situations, and which, in any case, far exceeded the narrow framework within which Mr. Lie's letter tended to confine it.

After a long debate on the Polish proposal *re* Spain the Australian delegate suggested an amendment to the Polish resolution reading: "The attention of the Council having been drawn to the situation in Spain . . . and the Council having been asked to declare this situation has led to international friction . . . the Council hereby resolves in accordance with Article 34 to make further inquiries to determine whether such a situation does exist. To this end it appoints a committee of 5 . . . to examine the statements made before it concerning Spain, to call for further . . . evidence from members of the U.N. and from the Franco régime, and make such other inquiries as it may deem fit in order that the Committee may report to the Council not later than May 17 on the following questions: (1) Is the Spanish situation one essentially within the jurisdiction of Spain? (2) is the situation one which might lead to international friction and give rise to a dispute? and (3) if the answer to

No. 2 is "Yes" is the continuance of the situation likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security?"

The delegations agreed to obtain the views of their Governments on this resolution.

During the debate Sir Alexander Cadogan analysed the Polish indictment, but found the evidence submitted by Dr. Lange not sufficiently convincing, with no proof furnished of any aggressive intention on Spain's part. Nor had France supplied any. It was true there were considerable German assets in Spain, and between 10 and 12 thousand Germans. It appeared, however, that all official and most semi-official German assets had already been handed over to the Allied Mission in Madrid. In January the Embassy reported that there was no evidence whatever to suggest that German scientists in Spain were doing research on new methods of warfare, and they had no information to date which would confirm the allegation.

M. Gromyko argued that when the internal situation of any country constituted a danger to international peace the Charter positively authorized intervention by U.N.O. He described the Franco régime, and then said "We cannot be logical if we attempt at the same time to take measures to destroy the remnants of Fascism, for example, in Germany and Italy, and to leave the Fascist régime in Spain".

He appealed to the United Nations to take determined action to prevent a repetition of the inter-war policy of non-intervention.

---

*The Royal Institute of International Affairs is an unofficial and non-political body, founded in 1920 to encourage and facilitate the scientific study of international questions. The Institute, as such, is precluded by the terms of its Charter from expressing an opinion on any aspect of international affairs. Any views expressed in this publication are, therefore, not those of the Institute.*